

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 277333

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ORIGIN AID-05

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DRAFTED BY A/AID:PBOUGHTON/EB/FPD:CGBILLO:DKS

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USDA/FAS:PFINDLEN

EB/OFPP:JAPLACKE

USDA/FAS:DNOVOTNY

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R 221703Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 277333

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, EAID, EAGR

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD SECURITY--SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

REF: FAO LETTER G/X/14-ESC DATED 8 SEPTEMBER 1975

1. REQUEST YOU INFORM FAO DG BOERMA THAT FOLLOWING IS U.S.
REPLY TO HIS LETTER UNDER REFERENCE TO THE SECRETARY OF
STATE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY.

2. ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES, THE AGENCY FOR INTER-
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WILL ENDEAVOR TO COOPERATE WITH THE
FOOD SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, DECIDING ON BILATERAL
ASSISTANCE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF
FAO COUNTRY MISSION REPORTS AND CONSULTATIONS WITH THE
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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 277333

RECIPIENT GOVERNMENTS AND AID FIELD MISSIONS.

3. WITH REGARD TO SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR FOOD SECURITY, AS STATED BY SECRETARY KISSINGER AT THE UNGA 7TH SPECIAL SESSION ON SEPTEMBER 1, THE UNITED STATES ATTACHES HIGH PRIORITY TO THE NEED FOR REDUCING POST-HARVEST LOSSES DUE TO INADEQUATE STORAGE, TRANSPORT, AND PEST CONTROL. THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IS ALREADY REVIEWING ITS PROGRAMS

AND ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA TO SEE WHERE ADDITIONAL EFFORTS MIGHT BE UNDERTAKEN. GIVEN THE ATTENTION DEVOTED IN THE UNDERTAKING TO DEVELOPMENT OF STORAGE FACILITIES SUITED TO CONDITIONS IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THIS APPEARS TO BE AN AREA IN WHICH AID COULD FRUITFULLY COLLABORATE WITH FAO IN PURSUIT OF THE OBJECTIVES LAID OUT IN THE DG'S LETTER. IN FACT, AID HAS A CONTRACT WITH KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY UNDER WHICH CONSULTANTS ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP COUNTRIES ASSESS THEIR STORAGE NEEDS.

4. WITH REGARD TO ASSISTANCE FOR THE BUILD-UP OF CEREALS STOCKS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THE UNITED STATES CONSIDERS THAT THE PRINCIPLE OF INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION OF NATIONAL STOCKS, ENUNCIATED IN THE INTERNATIONAL UNDERTAKING ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY, IS THE APPROPRIATE BASIS FOR DEVELOPING A SYSTEM IN WHICH AN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OF STOCK ACCUMULATION COULD BE CARRIED OUT. ACCORDINGLY, THE UNITED STATES HAS MADE A CONCRETE PROPOSAL FOR SUCH A SYSTEM TO A WORKING GROUP OF MAJOR FOOD PRODUCING AND CONSUMING COUNTRIES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL. WE HOPE THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON RESERVES CAN BEGIN PROMPTLY IN THE COUNCIL SO THAT AN AGREEMENT CAN BE CONCLUDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. KISSINGER

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